

angle is at a maximum at said bottom dead center position and at a minimum at said top dead center position;

a rotation axis of said main gear and a rotation axis of said crank shaft are eccentric along a common center line, whereby a speed of said slide is at a minimum at said bottom dead center and a maximum at said top dead center position thereby increasing a pressing force at said bottom dead center position;

said drive mechanism operating said slide along said press center;

said slide and said frame symmetrical about said press center and said first centerline; and

said frame being continuous and symmetrical about said first centerline whereby said frame resists a rotational force during a pressing operation and eliminates an operational gapping risk.

REMARKS

This submission is in response to the Official Action dated August 13, 2002. Reconsideration of the above identified application, in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, is requested.

Status of the Claims

Claim 9 has been added.

Claim 5 has been amended.

Claims 3-9 are presently pending.

Claims 3 and 4 are allowed.

Claims 5-7 stand rejected.

Claim 8 is objected to.

The amendments to claim 5 and new claim 9 do not add new matter.

Status of the Specification

The specification has been amended to refer to the amended drawings.

No new matter is added.

Status of the Drawings

The drawings have been amended to U.S. convention for the section lines. No new matter is added.

Telephone Interview

The Applicants would like to thank Examiner Self for all of the courtesies extended in the telephone interview held on September 25, 2002 to Louis DelJuidice and James Tuozzo. The Applicants would thoroughly like to thank the Examiner for the agreement that the amendment to claim 5, as made above, should distinguish the present invention over the rejections of record.



35 U.S.C § 102(b) Rejections

Claims 5, 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,218,901 to Imanishi. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection by stating that amended claim 5 is not anticipated because Imanishi does not disclose or suggest all the claimed elements of the present invention.

Claim 5 has been amended to distinctly claim that "said press machine comprises only a first and a second guide member." A press machine having only two guide members 3, one on each plate member 21, is clearly defined in the specification (page 5, lines 1-10 and page 12, lines 1-11) and therefore no new matter is added. Imanishi requires a minimum of four (4) guide posts 15 (col 3, line 35) and does not teach or describe the operation with solely a pair of guide posts to eliminate rotation during force application. The Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to Figures 1 and 2 of Imanishi, where the reference requires and solely discloses the use of four guide posts 15 which serve to counter press-force rotation (the press-force center being in the center of the rectangle formed by the guide posts). Claim 5, as amended, limits the press machine to two guide members. Thus, Imanishi does not anticipate the present invention since Imanishi requires four guide posts 15 to counter press-force.

Claims 6-8 define over the prior art based on their own recital and their dependency from independent claim 5. The Applicants respectfully traverse the 35



U.S.C. § 102(b) rejections and requests the withdrawal thereof in light of the amendments herein.

Acknowledgment of Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the acknowledgment of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 4 and 8. Applicants state that new claim 9 is claim 8 written in independent form as suggested by the Examiner.

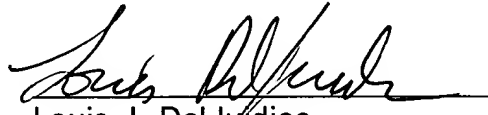
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that claims 5-9 are in condition for allowance. It is therefore earnestly requested that the present application, as a whole, receive favorable consideration and that all of the pending claims be allowed in their present form. Applicants propose that they have responded to each concern raised by the Examiner.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

October 15, 2002


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I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or fee was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service & that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No: 9637/OL307USO

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **KOBAYASHI et al.**

Serial No.: 09/888,073

Art Unit: 3725

RECEIVED

OCT 21 2002

Confirmation No.: 6606

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Filed: June 22, 2001

Examiner: SELF, Shelley M.

For: **PRESS MACHINE**

MARK-UP TO THE AMENDMENT

October 15, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington DC 20231

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as follows:

On Page 10, line 4, please amend as follows:

Fig. 2 is a partial cross-section drawing along line [II-II] 2-2 in Fig. 1(A).

B

On Page 10, lines 7-9, please amend as follows:

Fig. 3(B) is a cross-section drawing along the [III-III] 3-3 line in Fig. 3(A).

Fig. 3(C) is a cross-sectional drawing along the [III-III] 3-3 line at a bottom dead center position.

Fig. 3(D) is a cross-sectional drawing along the [III-III] 3-3 line at the top dead center position.

On Page 10, line 12, please amend as follows:

Fig. 5 is a partial cross-section drawing along the [I-I] 5-5 line in Fig. 4(A).

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 5 to read as follows:

5. (Twice Amended) A press machine, comprising:

a frame;

a flywheel;

a drive mechanism;

a slide in said frame;

said slide operating along a first centerline of said frame;

a press center on said slide;

said press center aligned with said first centerline and said frame;

only a first and a second guide member on said press machine;

a line between said first and said second guide member passing through said press center along a common centerline;

said drive mechanism operating said slide along said press center;

said slide and said frame symmetrical about said press center and said first centerline; and

said frame being continuous and symmetrical about said first centerline whereby said frame resists a rotational force during a pressing operation and eliminates an operational gapping risk.

Please add the following new claim

9. (New) A press machine, comprising:

a frame;

a flywheel;

a drive mechanism;

a drive shaft in said drive mechanism and rotatably disposed on said frame;

a gear section on said drive shaft operable joined to said flywheel;

a main gear rotatably disposed on said frame and meshing with said gear section;

a slide in said frame having a top and a bottom dead center position and operating along a first centerline of said frame;

a press center on said slide and aligned with said first centerline and said frame;

a first and a second guide member on said press machine;

a line between said first and said second guide member passing through said press



center;

a crank shaft rotatably disposed on said frame;

an eccentric section on said crank shaft;

a connecting rod operably coupling said crank shaft to said slide;

a first link fixed to a first end of said crank shaft and perpendicular to said crank

shaft;

a second link operably connecting said first link to said main gear;

a first angle operably defined between said first and second link whereby said first angle is at a maximum at said bottom dead center position and at a minimum at said top dead center position;

a rotation axis of said main gear and a rotation axis of said crank shaft are eccentric along a common center line, whereby a speed of said slide is at a minimum at said bottom dead center and a maximum at said top dead center position thereby increasing a pressing force at said bottom dead center position;

said drive mechanism operating said slide along said press center;

said slide and said frame symmetrical about said press center and said first centerline; and

said frame being continuous and symmetrical about said first centerline whereby said frame resists a rotational force during a pressing operation and eliminates an operational gapping risk.

